

CITY OF CROUCH

Meeting of the City Council

April 8, 2026

6:30 p.m.

City Hall

Garden Valley, ID 83622

Minutes Regular Council Meeting

The public has the right to attend meetings, with the exception of lawful executive sessions.

****Changes on agenda are for emergencies only.****

Mayor-Trevor Schiefelbein
Council President-Mike Hefner
Steve Pedersen-Absent
Henry Vanderwyk
Kraig Wees

Treasurer-Steve Raddigan
Water Master- Terry Tucker-Absent
Bonnie Horsewood-City Clerk
Geoff Schroader-City Attorney-by phone if needed

Open Regular Council Meeting 6:31

Pledge of Allegiance

• **Consent Agenda**

- Review of Minutes of Regular Meeting of March 11, 2026
- Review of Payables & Financials
- (*) Approve Consent Agenda-Member KW made the Motion to Approve the Consent Agenda, Member MH Second the Motion. All: Yes. Motion passed.

• **Municipal Water System**

- (*) Watermaster Report- If the City just uses this well it will keep the water from being stagnant. The Mayors advised that Community Hall is going to be rented on a regular basis by a Jujitsu class starting in May, with three days a week working up to every day, so that means the well will be used and the sprinklers to the City have been turned on as well. We had some test issues with that well because it wasn't being used much and the water wasn't cycling. The water, at this time, is being tested every month. With the sprinklers being on, adding more sprinklers being added and the Hall being rented, we should be good. Member KW said he thought it was a good idea to have a second well we could go to in an emergency. Council decided to take no action to shut down that well.
- (*) Well discussion/decision on abandoning old well- available grants- No action on this.

• **New Business**

- (*) Jeremy Braughton for the 4th of July road closure- He was approached by a couple of businesses here in Crouch about closing part of the roadway down for the 4th and bring back the old street dance, so in order to do that for safety, traffic has to be blocked. He had two plans. Plan one basically shut down the whole town, which isn't the best thing to do. Plan two is to barricade the road between the Longhorn and Garden Valley Smiles, similar to what was done for the Christmas Tree lighting. This would allow traffic to use Market Street, Village Circle, the bridge and the store parking lot out to the Middlefork. This would be done after all the events are done, for example the 4th of July

parade/water and the ducks etc. which would be around 6:00PM to when ever the dance and fireworks are all finished. The road closure will not affect any of the events planned for that day. Jeremy has contacted the Sheriff's office and the commissioners and they are on board. This is all private property but he still contacted them. He has not spoken to the Fire Chief yet. Mayor suggested he do that just for emergency access. Jeremy said he would speak to him. Leslie Lazo was concerned about the barriers that would be used. She asked about using the cement blocks so cars couldn't drive through the road. Jeremy said they would have to be able to be moved in case of an emergency. She said they can be moved. The parking issue came up. The closure would not affect this anymore than any other year, maybe 4 spots. Steve Fitz asked what the process for shutting down the road is. Jeremy has cleared it with law enforcement, the County and the property owners. He will speak to the Fire Chief as well. The Mayor said he can give Jeremy Geoff's number if he has any questions. The street being closed is also private property with a prescriptive easement. Jeremy had 'heard' that the Chamber had proposed for the area of the bridge to be closed for the fireworks. No one here had heard of that at all. They do not close down the road for the fireworks. They do shut down a portion of Old Crouch Rd for the Soapbox Derby for a couple hrs. during the day. The Chamber will have a band at the park and The Longhorn will have a band in the city. This is all the same as last year. The Shame is likely having a band as well. Council decided that Option B for the road closure would be the best choice. Old Crouch Rd will be closed from Middlefork Rd to just past the Longhorns deck allowing traffic to use Market Street to Middlefork.

- (*) Set Budget Hearing Date- Member MH made the Motion to set the Budget Hearing date for August 12th 2026 at 6:30 PM. Member KW Second the Motion. All: Yes, Motion Passed.

- **Old Business**

- (*) Walkway discussion/decision-need representatives- The walkway is possibly the last single time plan to use some of the LOT monies. We can and will use LOT funds for health and safety in the City such as porta potties, dumpsters, clean up, when there is a need such as an event going on. For the walkway, the Mayor and Council walked from Wild Bill's to Calvery Chapel to get an idea for a route for the walkway. One idea for materials was to use decomposed granite. Tony Free had spoken to Thor Oden who said he would give us what he could. First step is to contact the County to see if there are any recent survey's that have been done on that short stretch of Middlefork Rd. and look into the legalities of all that. It is believed that there is a ten-foot easement there. The goal is to have a low maintenance path there for people to use safely. The City & Council values the community input and if anyone would like to help with the planning of the walkway, it would be appreciated. The other issue we have is funding and possible grants. We have some funds from the LOT. Grants are tight right now so hopefully as we get closer this will ease up. Member MH asked Jeremy Braughton, from Boise County, about one steep section of the roadside, what may need to be done. He said that some kind of retaining wall will most likely be needed and will probably need grant money. The Mayor had considered putting the walkway in the ditch area on the road opposite the riverside. He did say that along the river's view would be nice though. Ernest, Pastor from the Calvery Chapel, said he would like to trim up some of the brush that covers and blocks the river without disturbing any of the animals. Mr. Braughton said he didn't think the County would have a problem with it but the City would have to maintain it. Leslie Lazo asked how wide we were looking at, four-foot, six foot or what. At this point we don't know but the bigger the better. The Mayor said it would be nice to even have a bench or two if we had a nice wider spot. Of course, this will cost more and

we don't have bottomless coffers. At this early point we are looking for ideas and volunteers to be on committees to help put this all together. Valerie Jones asked if this was going to run throughout the whole town. The Mayor explained it would be nice to have it go all the way from Starlight to the Senior Center, but that would have to be done in phases. Phase one would tentatively be from Wild Bill's to the Church. Eventually it would be nice to see it going all the way to Banks Lowman and also up to the Senior Center. There are lots of families by the Senior Center. Eric Rowland said he doesn't see too many people walking by his shop, it is really narrow there. This would be a long way down the road. Right now, the focus would be on connecting The Starlight/Dirty Shame to Wild Bill's. Question, how far off the side of the road would it have to be? Tony Free said it would only matter how close it would be to the road. If Tim Fritzley's resort ever gets finished, there will be tons of foot traffic coming to town. Lots of good ideas so we really need input and committees put together and you do not have to live in the city to be on a committee. Valerie Jones asked if the city had any plans for expanding the city water system and curbs and gutters. Currently we don't have plans or need to expand our water system. As far as curbs and gutters we don't want to be Boise. Some business owners here don't like that idea and even don't want to paint lines for their parking. Question was is this walkway a master plan to go throughout the city. In the future, yes, it would be done in phases. Member KW said if we are getting down to writing a grant, we should ask for all of it. Thor Oden said from his experience it is better to ask for it in phases due to asking for it all at once is too big of an ask. Thor also suggested speaking to Parks & Rec. Mayor said he will and it ties right in with the park. This all is for public safety so people are not walking in the street.

- (*) Discussion/Decision on bids to repair the floor by the furnace in Community Hall- The Mayor asked Bonnie how the bids were going. The consensus from people wanting to submit bids is that if the floor by the furnace could be cut out, it would make it easier to give a more exact bid. The damage underneath then could be assessed more accurately. This way they are not giving a blind bid. Member MH said he could donate a piece of plywood to be secured over the hole for safety. The Mayor will ask Member Steve Pedersen if he would be willing to cut the hole.
- (*) Dog leash law- Council said they do follow the County's dog at large law but we in the city do not have a leash law. Geoff had said that he would have to add a leash law to our Vicious Dog Ordinance. Enforceability was a question. The Sheriff can be called out and can speak to the owner about it but the second call they can enforce a leash law. There was discussion about this for and against. Member HV said if your child was involved in a dog issue it would be a different story. Mayor asked for a Motion to add a dog leash law to our Vicious Dog Ordinance. Member MH made the Motion to add a dog leash law to our Vicious Dog Ordinance. Member HV Second the Motion. All: Yes. Motion Passed.

- **Scheduled Delegations**

- (*) Crouch/Garden Valley Museum Board Report- Kim was out due to knee replacement but nothing to report.

- **Unscheduled Delegations**

- (*) **Clerk Report-** Jordan Jones for the All Hazard Mitigation would like to attend one of Our Council meetings. Bonnie will contact him to attend our July Council meeting.
- (*) **Treasurers Report-** Submitted
- **Adjournment- 7:14 PM**

Next Regular Council Meeting is May 13th, 2026 at 6:30 PM

**ASTERISK (*) ITEMS ARE ALL SUBJECT TO POSSIBLE ACTION BY THE CROUCH CITY
COUNCIL MEMBERS.**

Trevor Schiefelbein-Mayor

Bonnie M. Horsewood